

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 - 3 (Canceled)

4. (Currently amended): A laminar application device for applying an interposed patch to a target surface, comprising:

- (a) a substantially planar applicator substrate comprising a tab extending outwardly therefrom ~~graspable means~~; wherein the applicator substrate comprises an interior surface, said interior surface comprising an adhesive means;
- (b) a substantially planar patch comprising a first surface and a second surface, said second surface comprising an adhesive means; and
- (c) a substantially planar release substrate comprising a tab extending outwardly therefrom that is offset laterally from the applicator substrate tab ~~graspable means~~; wherein the release substrate comprises an interior surface;

wherein the adhesive means of the interior surface of the applicator substrate releasably affixes the first surface of the patch to the interior surface of the applicator substrate thereby comprising a first peel bond and thereby forming an applicator substrate/patch combination comprising an upper surface;

wherein the release substrate is releasably affixed to the upper surface of the combination thereby comprising a second peel bond;

wherein the strength of the first peel bond is greater than the strength of the second peel bond;

wherein the patch comprises a circumferential lateral edge, said circumferential lateral edge comprising having:

- (a) a leading edge, said leading edge being proximate to the tab ~~graspable-means~~ of the releasably affixed release substrate;
- (b) a trailing edge, said trailing edge being distal to the tab ~~graspable-means~~ of the releasably affixed release substrate; and
- (c) a non-securing edge;

wherein the adhesive means of the interior surface of the applicator substrate comprises an adhesive area comprising an adhesive contact area, said adhesive contact area having a leading edge contact area and a trailing edge contact area;

wherein the leading edge contact area tacks the leading edge of the patch to the interior surface of the applicator substrate; and

wherein the trailing edge contact area tacks the trailing edge of the patch to the interior surface of the applicator substrate.

5. (Original): A device according to Claim 4 wherein the strength of an adhesive bond between the adhesive means of the second surface of the patch and a target surface is greater than the strength of the first peel bond.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended): A device according to Claim ~~[[6]]~~ 4, wherein at least either the leading edge contact area or the trailing edge contact area, or both, ~~is~~ are a sinusoidal pattern.

8. (Currently amended): A device according to Claim ~~[[7]]~~ 4, wherein the adhesive area comprises an area surrounding the patch.

9. (Original): A device according to Claim 8, wherein the patch further comprises an active.
10. (Original): A device according to Claim 9, wherein the active is a drug.
11. (Previously presented): A device according to Claim 10, wherein the tab of the release substrate is completely laterally offset from the applicator/substrate combination.
12. (Currently amended): A kit containing an application device comprising:
 - (a) an application device according to Claim [[6]] 4;
 - (b) a usage instructions associated therewith; and
 - (c) a package containing components (a) and (b).
13. (Previously presented): A device according to Claim 4, wherein the applicator substrate comprises polyester film.
14. (Previously presented): A device according to Claim 4, wherein the patch comprises polyethylene film.
15. (Previously presented): A device according to Claim 4, wherein the release substrate comprises siliconized polyester.
16. (Previously presented): A device according to Claim 9, wherein the active is selected from the group consisting of antimicrobials, rubifacients, analgesics, hormones, anti-seborrhea agents, anti-psoriatic agents, keratolytic agents, and mixtures thereof.
17. (Previously presented): A device according to Claim 16, wherein the active comprises one or more hormones.
18. (Previously presented): A device according to Claim 4, wherein the leading edge comprises from about 10% to about 30% of the total circumferential lateral edge of the patch.

19. (Previously presented): A device according to Claim 4, wherein the trailing edge comprises from about 10% to about 35% of the total circumferential lateral edge of the patch.

20. (Previously presented): A device according to Claim 4, wherein the leading edge contact area comprises an area from about 0.4 cm^2 to about 2 cm^2 .

21. (Previously presented): A device according to Claim 4, wherein the trailing edge contact area comprises an area from about 0.4 cm^2 to about 2.5 cm^2 .

22. (Canceled)

2.3. (Previously presented): A method for delivering hormones as part of a hormone therapy to a human female patient in need thereof, comprising providing a device according to Claim 4 to said patient.

24. (New): A device according to Claim 4, wherein at least either the leading edge contact area or the trailing edge contact area, or both, are a curvilinear pattern.